

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 147

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 161

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 147—Relative to state highway memorial designations.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 19, 2008.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 147, Maze. Detective Kent Haws Memorial Highway and Senior Investigator Laura Jean Cleaves Memorial Junction.

This measure would designate a portion of State Highway Route 65 in Tulare County as the Detective Kent Haws Memorial Highway and would designate the intersection of State Highway Routes 154 and 246 in Santa Barbara County as the Senior Investigator Laura Jean Cleaves Memorial Junction. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing those special designation's and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover those costs, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, Kent Haws was born on October 1, 1969, in Phoenix, Arizona, and was an energetic and loyal man, whose life of protecting others began at a young age; and

WHEREAS, On May 28, 1993, Kent Haws entered the United States Army and became an Airborne Ranger Avenger crew member assigned to Alpha Battery 3rd Battalion 62nd Air Defense Artillery Unit, with training in forward area air defense, intelligence handling, and jungle warfare; and

WHEREAS, Kent Haws was stationed in Texas and New York, attained the rank of E4 as a corporal, and was deployed to Haiti; and

WHEREAS, Kent Haws was an expert marksman with rifle and grenade and a parachutist, and was awarded over 10 medals, commendations, and ribbons; and

WHEREAS, Upon his honorable discharge from the United States Army on October 28, 1996, Kent Haws chose to serve his community by joining the Tulare County Sheriff's Department and working in various locations, including the Main Jail Detention Facility and the Porterville Substation, and serving in the capacities of East Porterville Community Based Officer, detective, and as a member of both the search and rescue team and the Sheriff's Tactical Enforcement Personnel Unit (STEP); and

WHEREAS, Detective Haws loved his family, water sports, a good barbeque, and a great hand of poker; and

WHEREAS, Detective Haws had a passion for protecting others, and on December 17, 2007, while on his way home from serving search warrants, he observed a suspicious person in an orange grove near the town of Ivanhoe

and attempted to make contact, at which time he was fired upon and suffered a fatal injury; and

WHEREAS, Detective Haws is survived by his wife, Francisca, and their three children, Dominik, Nicholas, and Evan, and is remembered by his colleagues in the Tulare County Sheriff's Department as a "STEP-brother" who led by example, was not afraid to volunteer for the most difficult of duties, and was a humble leader who understood that true leadership is characterized by action, not position; and

WHEREAS, It is therefore appropriate to designate the portion of State Highway Route 65 between State Highway Routes 198 and 137 in Tulare County in honor of Detective Kent Haws, a brave man who served his country and community and was a selfless and self-sacrificing hero; and

WHEREAS, Laura Jean Cleaves was born on April 19, 1955, in Long Beach, California, and was admired and appreciated for her kindness, generosity of spirit, love of family, eternal optimism, passion for working to make the world a better place, and genuine capacity to share her time and talents with others; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, Ms. Cleaves joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, where she met her future husband, Deputy Stephen M. Cleaves, and they were married in 1978 and moved to northern California two years later, where she distinguished herself as the first female police officer for the City of Arcata; and

WHEREAS, Relocating to Santa Barbara County in 1981, Ms. Cleaves accepted a position with the Santa Barbara Police Department and, in 1984, became an investigator with the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office where she excelled as a criminal investigator and was later promoted to senior investigator, and she continually demonstrated honesty, integrity, professionalism, and leadership in all her varied assignments; and

WHEREAS, An avid and accomplished horsewoman, Ms. Cleaves wrote articles on horse care, safety, and riding and provided riding instruction for those with a love of horses and, in 1988, she began sharing her expertise as a reserve deputy sheriff and instructor for the Sheriff's Mounted Unit where she served until her passing on May 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cleaves had a passion for protecting others, and while on duty April 30, 2008, her vehicle was struck by a drunken driver and she suffered a fatal injury; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cleaves is survived by her husband, Stephen; her daughters and sons-in-law, Krista and Shane Buxman and Kelly and Daniel York; her father and stepmother, Bob and Elaine Ewen; her mother Juanita Speirs; her three sisters; her one brother; and a host of family, friends, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, It is therefore appropriate to designate the intersection of State Highway Routes 154 and 246 in Santa Barbara County in honor of Senior Investigator Laura Jean Cleaves, a woman known for her illustrious record of personal, professional, and civic achievements, as well as the love and devotion she gave to her family and friends; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the portion of State Highway Route 65 between State Highway Routes 198 and 137 in Tulare County as the Detective Kent Haws Memorial Highway; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature hereby designates the intersection of State Highway Routes 154 and 246 in Santa Barbara County as the Senior Investigator Laura Jean Cleaves Memorial Junction; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing these special designations and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover these costs, to erect those signs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.